



## AMENDMENT TO CLAIMS

1. (canceled)

5 2. (Currently Amended)

In a spruing assembly comprising:

a runner bar for connecting to a base unit surrounded  
by a casting ring;

at least one sprue connected at a second end to the  
10 runner bar, said sprue having an opposed first end for  
connecting to at least one wax structure formed in a  
pattern to be cast, the improvement comprising:

a curved adapter disposed at the second end of the  
sprue, said adapter being sized and shaped to lock onto  
15 said runner bar in a secure engagement; and

~~The spruing assembly as described in claim 1~~ wherein  
the adapter has a radius of a first predetermined length,  
and the runner bar has a radius of a second predetermined  
length which is longer than the first predetermined length.

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3. (Currently Amended)      The spruing assembly as  
described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 2 wherein said sprue has a  
reservoir formed thereon.

4. (Currently Amended) The spruing assembly as described in ~~claim 1~~ claim 2 wherein at least the first end of said sprue is hollow.

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5. (Canceled)

6. (Currently Amended)

In a spruing assembly comprising:

10 a base unit removeably engaged to a casting ring to define a receptacle for receiving investment material for the making of castings; a sprue holding member connected to the base unit inside said receptacle; said improvement comprising:

15 at least one wax structure formed in a pattern to be cast;

at least one sprue having a first end and a second end, said first end connected to the wax structure; and,

a curved adapter disposed at the second end of the  
20 sprue, said adapter of the second end connected to said sprue holding member; said adapter being sized and shaped to lock onto said sprue holding member in a secure engagement; and,

~~The spruing assembly as described in claim 5~~ wherein  
the adapter has a radius of a first predetermined length,  
and the sprue holding member has a radius of a second  
5 predetermined length which is longer than the first  
predetermined length.

7. (Original) The spruing assembly as described in  
claim 6 wherein the sprue holding member is a single  
10 elongated runner bar having an arcuate cross-section.

8. (Original) The spruing assembly as described in  
claim 6 wherein the sprue holding member is a runner bar  
formed in the shape of a ring having a central plug and a  
15 plurality of radial bars extending from the central plug  
and connected to the ring, said central plug is connected  
to said base unit, said runner bar has an arcuate cross-  
section.

20 9. (Canceled)

10. (Canceled)

11. (Canceled)

12. (Currently Amended)

In a spruing assembly comprising:

5      a base unit removeably engaged to a casting ring to  
define a receptacle for receiving investment material for  
the making of castings; a sprue holding member connected to  
the base unit inside said receptacle; said improvement  
comprising:

10      at multi-unit wax structure formed in a pattern to be  
cast;

each unit of said multi-unit wax structure having a  
sprue connected thereto, each sprue having a first end and  
a second end, said first end connected to the corresponding  
15 unit of said multi-unit wax structure; and,

a curved adapter disposed at the second end of each  
sprue, each adapter of each second end connected to said  
sprue holding member; each adapter being sized and shaped  
to cover at least half of the circumference of the sprue  
20 holding member in locking onto said sprue holding member in  
a secure engagement; and,

~~The spruing assembly as described in claim 11 wherein~~  
each adapter has a radius of a first predetermined length,

and the sprue holding member has a radius of a second predetermined length which is longer than the first predetermined length.

5 13. (Original) The spruing assembly as described in claim 12 wherein the sprue holding member is a single elongated runner bar having an arcuate cross-section.

14. (Original) The spruing assembly as described  
10 in claim 12 wherein the sprue holding member is a runner bar formed in the shape of a ring having a central plug and a plurality of radial bars extending from the central plug and connected to the ring, said central plug is connected to said base unit, said runner bar has an arcuate cross-  
15 section.

15. (Currently Amended) The spruing assembly as described in ~~claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein each sprue has a reservoir formed thereon.

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16. (Currently Amended) The spruing assembly as described in ~~claim 11~~ claim 12 wherein at least the first end of each sprue is hollow.